

# Agenda

# Veterans Affairs Commission

Monday, June 19, 2006

3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Bldg., "C" Room  
114 W. Commerce

VAC Chairman	Erik Frederick, Chair
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VAC Members:	Roy Lee, Manuel S. Perez, Bob Murdock, Richard Holgin, Daniel Delgado, Robert Robley John Richard Dickson(3 vacancies for Districts 3, 6, & 10)
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VAC Liaisons:	Carmelina R. Davis, Economic Development Dept.	VAC Technical Advisors: Craig Erickson, Bexar County
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## Agenda Topics

3:00 P.M.	Call To Order	Erik Frederick, Chair
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- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Citizens to be Heard
- III. Approval of the Minutes – 5/15/06

### New Business

- IV. Certificate of Appreciation for  
Karen S. Rankin
- V. Theft of Veterans Personal Data

### Old Business

- VI. Veterans Memorial Plaza Historic District
- VII. Medal of Honor Memorial Fundraising  
Campaign
- VIII. VAC Newsletter
- IX. VAC Budget
- X. Other Business

### Adjournment

Next Meeting: 7/17/06 at 3:00 p.m.

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# COMMISSION ON VETERANS AFFAIRS

## Minutes

Monday, May 15, 2006, 3:00 p.m.

Municipal Plaza, "C" Room, 114 W. Commerce

### ATTENDANCE

#### PRESENT

Roy Lee, Vice Chair  
Bob Murdock  
Richard Holgin  
Manuel Perez  
Robert Robley  
Daniel Delgado

#### ABSENT

Erik Frederick, Chair  
Karen S. Rankin

### CITY STAFF:

Ed Davis, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department  
Walter Ague, Economic Development Department  
James LeFlore, Public Works  
Emil Moncivais, City's Planning Department  
Ann McGlone, Planning  
Felix Padron, Cultural Arts  
Laura Cabanilla-Cruz, District 1 staff  
Carmelina R. Davis, Economic Development Department  
Orlando Rodriguez, City Attorney's Office

### OTHER AGENCIES & GUESTS:

Craig Erickson, Bexar County  
LeRoy (Roy) Green, Bexar County

#### I. Call to Order

Mr. Roy Lee, VAC Vice-Chair, called the monthly meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. A quorum was present.

#### II. Pledge of Allegiance

Members, staff, and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### III. Citizens to be Heard

Mr. Erickson informed the VAC that since its inception in 2003, there had been 38 burials through the Homeless Burial Program, in addition to Mr. James Davis, an Army veteran, who would be buried on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. at Fort Sam Houston.

He added that there would be a Memorial Ceremony on the 23<sup>rd</sup> honoring 8 veterans killed in Iraq or Afghanistan in the past year. The ceremony is scheduled at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday in the Commissioners Court, Bexar County Courthouse 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

#### **IV. Minutes**

The VAC members reviewed the April 17, 2006 minutes. Mr. Holgin motioned to approve the minutes and Mr. Robley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **V. New Business**

##### Request for Funds to the United States Military Veterans Parade Association

Mr. Perez introduced the request for funds in the amount of \$500 to the United States Military Veterans Parade Association. A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Perez and seconded by Mr. Holgin. The motion was unanimously approved.

##### Resolution Supporting the Renaming of the "Auditorium Circle Historic District" to "Veterans Memorial Plaza."

Mr. Davis made a presentation regarding the request from the VAC for a Resolution in support of Renaming the "Auditorium Circle Historic District." He provided an overview for new members that were not familiar with the project. He informed them that the item was taken before the Military Affairs Committee last Wednesday, who recommended the item to rename the "Auditorium Circle Historic District" to "Veterans Memorial Plaza Historic District", be brought before City Council on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Davis discussed the other 3 items on the Agenda as follows:

##### Resolution Requesting the City of San Antonio Provide \$25,000 for Stipends to Solicit Design Proposals for the Medal of Honor (MOH) Memorial.

Mr. Davis stated that the \$25,000 for stipends was meant to start the process for soliciting proposals for the design of the Medal of Honor Memorial (MOH). He said that these proposals would be brought before the VAC for consideration. He added that \$25,000 would be sought in this year's City budget to start the process.

##### Resolution Requesting the City of San Antonio Allocate \$200,000 in the FY2007 Budget to Fund the Development of a Master Plan for a "Veterans Memorial Plaza" Historic District and \$100,000 Toward the Construction of an MOH Memorial.

Mr. Davis informed the VAC that staff was also looking for funds in next year's budget to fund a Master Plan for the area to look at the possibilities of what could be done in the area beyond what was there today and/or expanding to adjacent areas. He mentioned that the current on-going planning for the Main Plaza was approximately \$1 million and our estimate for the site plan was \$200,000.

He said that the estimate for developing the MOH Memorial would be more than \$100,000 and thought that the City could inject the amount from the budget to start a fund-raising through the VAC.

Mr. Robley informed Mr. Davis that his recollection was that the Military Affairs Committee only agreed to rename the Historic District. Mr. Davis informed him that

Councilman Perez asked how much the project would cost and if a request had been made to include it in the budget for Council's consideration.

Mr. Murdock made a motion that the VAC support renaming the Auditorium Circle Historic District to the "Veterans Memorial Plaza" Historic District and it was seconded by Mr. Holgin. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Holgin motioned to accept the \$25,000 Stipend Resolution and was seconded by Mr. Murdock.

At this point, Mr. Robley asked for clarification on the money issues. Mr. Davis responded that currently there was no money in the City budget, but would attempt to identify funds that could be moved to utilize in this process.

Mr. LaFlore informed Mr. Robley that the conservative \$25,000 would be utilized to compensate for the various designers chosen for design considerations.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Holgin motioned to accept the third Resolution for the \$200,000 for the development of a Master Plan and it was seconded by Mr. Perez. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Lee informed staff that colleges or universities should be considered in soliciting ideas for the MOH design.

#### Other Business

Mr. Holgin announced his deliveries of the Patriot Awards to the families of fallen soldiers that were not able to attend the last Patriot Award Ceremony.

Ms. Davis informed the VAC that in the February's VAC meeting, staff asked if the Mayor wanted to continue the unit recognitions and were informed to proceed. Mr. Lee questioned if the volume was there to justify a ceremony. He said that perhaps we could collect the information and for the Celebration of America's Military ceremony to honor these units.

Mr. Holgin suggested inviting Senator Van De Putte to a VAC meeting, as she is on the State Veterans Affairs Military Committee. Mr. Murdock said that she could provide an update on the Disabled Veterans License issue that she was to bring up at the State level. He added that it would be a good idea to make her aware of the Veterans Plaza and solicit her assistance in requesting funds at the State level.

A discussion followed about a newspaper article read by Mr. Erickson regarding wounded, discharged, or disabled veterans that were asked to repay all, or unused portions of bonuses received as part of their current enlistment under the Separation Incentive Program. He indicated that he would research additional information and report back to the VAC at the next meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for June 19, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. With no further business to discuss, Mr. Holgin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Mr. Robley. The motion was unanimously approved.

